

**Major Capital School Construction**

Commissioner Rier announced at the April State Board of Education meeting his recommendation that six additional major capital projects be approved by the State Board. The six projects come from the 2010-2011 special priority list and are Mt. Ararat High School (RSU 75-Topsham), Martel School (Lewiston), Monmouth Middle School (RSU 2), Teague Park School (RSU 39-Caribou), Morse High School (RSU 1-Bath), and Fred P. Hall School (Portland).

Staff Update

The Division of School Facilities welcomes Stephanie Clark who joins the team as Secretary Associate replacing Karen Bossie. Stephanie is a graduate of Thomas College and currently works in the Child Nutrition Division. We are extremely happy to have Stephanie join us.

Federal Tax Credit Bonds

The State Board of Education has awarded Maine's Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) allocations from 2012 and 2013 to Lisbon and RSU 74. The total amount awarded is \$2,924,000. There will be no further awards unless and until this program is extended at the Federal level. The State Board of Education has awarded Maine's remaining Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) allocation from 2010 to RSU 11. The total amount awarded is \$764,457.

School Facility Management System (SFMS)

The requirement that the Department of Education provide a facilities maintenance template and capital planning software to school units is being repealed through the enactment of LD 1805. Therefore, the School Facility Management System (SFMS) will no longer be available after June 30, 2014, the end date of the current contract with VFA, Inc., the provider of the SFMS capital planning software. It is important that each school unit extract their building information from SFMS prior to June 30 as there will be no access to your data after this date. It is recommended that school units run multiple data reports for their school buildings covering all aspects of their buildings (assets, systems, requirements, etc.)

Facilities Inventory

The School Facilities Inventory occurs every 3 years. The last inventory was conducted in FY11. The FY14 inventory is in the process of being automated. The launch date for the automated FY14 School Facilities Inventory is now projected to be mid-July 2014. Thank you for your patience as the design work continues.

Maintenance

Facilities Training – The annual School Facilities Conference will be June 23, 24 and 25, 2014. School facilities and custodial staff attend free. Details about the conference can be found at this website: <http://www.epmamaine.com/index.html>.

Safety

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – The mandatory IPM training and record keeping classes are available to school districts free. Please see the "What's New" section of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry School IPM website to register for training: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/php/integrated_pest_management/school/index.shtml.

Security

Emergency Preparedness Training – The annual statewide Maine Partners in Emergency Preparedness Conference will be held April 22-23, 2014 in Augusta. One day (April 22) and track of the conference is dedicated to school emergency preparedness. The keynote address will be given by a nationally known K-12 security expert. The conference is an opportunity for you to learn about school all-hazards emergency management plans and meet local first responders. Attendance is free for school staff. Please register for the conference at this website: <https://www.maine.gov/mema/prepare/conference/index.shtml>.

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